

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MELBOU 00213 130627 Z

20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

OMB-01 GAC-01 T-03 DPW-01 RSR-01 /086 W

----- 036863

R 130610 Z MAR 73

FM AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1548

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MELBOURNE 0213

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, AS

SUBJECT: SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ELECTION

REF: MELBOURNE 0205

1. MARCH 10 ELECTION MADE PREMIER DON DUNSTAN THE FIRST STATE LABOR LEADER SINCE 1910 TO HAVE HIS GOVT. REELECTED IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

2. STATE LABOR (ALP) GOVERNMENT WON 26 OF 47 LOWER HOUSE SEATS, A DROP OF ONE SEAT FROM THE 27 SEATS PREVIOUSLY HELD BY LABOR. AT THIS STAGE LIBERAL COUNTRY LEAGUE HAS 18 SEATS, COUNTRY PARTY (CP) (REPRESENTED WITH OWN CANDIDATE IN LOWER HOUSE FOR FIRST TIME IN OVER FORTY YEARS) HAS 1, AND 2 SEATS IN DOUBT BUT PROBABLY WILL BE DEIVIDED BETWEEN CP AND LCL.

3. LABOR WON HANDILY WITH A 3 AND ONE HALF PERCENT SWING TO THE ALP ( COMPARED WITH 1970 ELECTION) IN THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICTS COMPRISING 70 PERCENT OF FRANCHISED ELECTORATE. THIS IS FIRST STATEWIDE SA ELECTION ( A) UNDER SOMEWHAT BROADER STATE VOTER-ELIBIBILITY RULES AND ( B) WITH 18- YEAR OLDS VOTING. OF SOME 60,000 ELIGIBLE EIGHTEEN- TO- TWENTY- YEAR- OLDS, ONLY 16,500 REGISTERED. ( UNDER SA STATE RPT STATE ELECTION RULES. REGISTRATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 MELBOU 00213 130627 Z

IS VOLUNTARY WITH COMPULSORY VOTING AFTER REGISTRATION.)

4. ALP ALSO GAINED 2 SEATS IN SA'S UPPER HOUSE, BRINGING  
LABOR TOTAL THERE TO 6 SEATS. ( ONLY 10 SEATS, OR HALF OF  
UPPER HOUSE, WERE INVOLVED IN THIS ELECTION.) LCL HOLDS  
REMAINING 14 SEATS. PREMIER DUNSTAN HAS JUST INDICATED THE  
POSSIBILITY OF A DOUBLE DISSOLUTION OF SA PARLIAMENT IF HIS  
LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM IS BOTTLENECKED IN UPPER HOUSE.  
FLUKER

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 MAR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** boyleja  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971120  
**Subject:** SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ELECTION  
**TAGS:** PINT, AS  
**To:** CANBERRA  
EA  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
SYDNEY  
**Type:** TE  
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